

TAB

7 September 1948

Captain Hamilton W. Howe
Naval War College
Newport, R. I.

Dear Captain Howe:

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Your letter of 6 July to [REDACTED], and of
30 June to me refers.

I am sorry we have taken so much time in getting something off to you, and the results are somewhat disappointing. It boils down to this: not much basic work has been done since the war; and, CIA itself cannot make available to you even some of the older material available to it from Army and Air Force when these organizations have chosen to invoke the "third agency" rule. However, I hope some of the material forwarded will be of use to you.

We have included studies on areas which appear to be of interest to you as per the schedule of problems you attached to your letter to [REDACTED]

Over a period of years, of course, the publication of the CIA National Intelligence Surveys will do much to fill your needs for comprehensive coverage of basic intelligence. It is this program which is preoccupying the intelligence organizations of the Departments of State, Army, Navy, and Air Force, as well as CIA, to the exclusion of the production of much other significant basic intelligence. The priorities for these surveys, which are more comprehensive than the S.I.D. study you have on the USSR, are set by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and have not been finalized.

The attached "List of Studies Forwarded to Naval War College by CIA" recapitulates regionally those items which we were able to procure either for retention or on loan. The items marked for loan are those taken from CIA files and are our only copies. The library would like some report from me in about

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a month regarding the disposition of these items. I would therefore appreciate it if you would return loan items in which you have no further interest, in about a month, and I can pass on the information. Needless to say, the items marked for retention by you may be disposed of in anyway you may wish.

I will try to interest the Army in doing something on communications in Persian Gulf area, but can make no promises as yet. CIA itself does not prepare "basic" studies but farms these out to the departments.

JANIS

The following JANIS reports would be of interest to you should you not already have them:

- #73 South East Siberia (with Supplement).
- 76 Kamchatka (with Supplement).
- 79 Sakhalin
- 80 Kuriles (with Supplement)

These should be requested directly from the Navy Department. They are registered publications and CIA can get these for third parties only with some difficulty.

ARMY AND AIR FORCE PUBLICATIONS

The few publications we were able to get for you from the Departments of the Army, and the Air Force, were released because of their low classifications and as is obvious, fairly old stuff. For reasons best known to themselves these departments have not been, and are not now, prepared to make their publications available to the Naval War College. As long as these departments insist on the enforcement of the third agency rule, CIA cannot obtain much from them for you. This appears to me to be a problem for CNO to tackle. ONI gets all these reports and can make them available to you if and when it gets permission to do so.

NAVY PUBLICATIONS

The following you probably already have, since they may be obtained from ONI:

- ONI 66: Field Monograph of Portuguese Guinea;
- ONI 69: Field Monograph of Cape Verde Islands;
- ONI 71: Field Monograph of Canary Islands.

STATE PUBLICATIONS.

If you so desire, I can get the following for you on a loan basis:

R&A-123, 12 January 1942, Economy of French West Africa
R&A-215A, January 1942, West and Equatorial Africa
R&A-712, February 1942, Survey of Cape Verde Islands
R&A-735, August 1942, Survey of Kuwait
R&A-776, August 1942, Survey of Arabia

BRITISH GEOGRAPHICAL HANDBOOK SERIES

You have indicated in your letter that you have this series. If by any chance you do not have the volume on Iceland I have a copy we could send you on indefinite loan.

Upon receipt of data forwarded to you via Naval Communications, I would appreciate it if you would sign the list enclosed with the material and return it to me.

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cc: DAD/RE
OCD(Liaison Branch)
File